Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method for sharing and manipulating supply chain planning data, comprising the steps of:

creating a central database for storing and sharing planning data;

providing an attribute module made selectively available to a plurality of users in the supply chain, the attribute module having access to the central database for assigning user-defined attributes to the planning data;

creating derived planning data from an equation using selected planning data stored in the database;

providing a hierarchy module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the hierarchy module having access to the central database for creating a hierarchy based on the user-defined attributes;

providing a manipulation module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the manipulation module having access to the central database for manipulating the supply chain planning data by aggregating the planning data in accordance with the hierarchy to produce aggregated planning data; and

providing a calendar module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the calendar module having access to the central database for organizing and incrementing the planning data according to a customized calendar.

2-80. (Cancelled)

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81. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the planning data includes data selected from the group consisting of demand forecast, supply forecast, promotional forecast, and purchasing order information.

82. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the planning data is selectively made available through a filter that queries for the planning data by seeking only data having the user-defined attribute.

83. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of users are selected from the group consisting of suppliers, assemblers, manufacturers, distributors, and trading partners.

84. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user-defined attribute is product size.

85. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the attribute module further assigns location attributes and product attributes to the planning data.

86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the planning data includes start date, duration, and quantity for each planning component.

87. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of users are assigned roles to determine status as read-only or authorized for editing the planning data.

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88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the hierarchical order of the attributes is unique to each user.

89. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further including providing a freeze profile module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the freeze profile module having access to the central database for assigning a freeze profile to the planning data preventing the planning data from being edited during a freeze period.

90. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing a hierarchy module involves ranking and placing one of the attributes into a hierarchical order.

91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of users access the central database through a communication link to a computer network.

92. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method for sharing supply chain planning data, comprising:

creating a central database for storing and sharing planning data;

providing an attribute module made selectively available to a plurality of users in the supply chain, the attribute module having access to the central database for assigning attributes to the planning data;

<u>creating derived planning data from an equation using selected planning data stored in the database;</u>

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providing a hierarchy module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the hierarchy module having access to the central database for creating a hierarchy based on the attributes; and

providing a manipulation module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the manipulation module having access to the central database for manipulating the supply chain planning data by aggregating the planning data in accordance with the hierarchy to produce aggregated planning data.

93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, further including providing a calendar module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the calendar module having access to the central database for organizing and incrementing the planning data according to a customized calendar.

94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the planning data includes data selected from the group consisting of demand forecast, supply forecast, promotional forecast, and purchasing order information.

95. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the planning data is selectively made available through a filter that queries for the planning data by seeking only data having the attribute.

96. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the plurality of users are selected from the group consisting of

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suppliers, assemblers, manufacturers, distributors, and trading partners.

97. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the attribute module assigns location attributes, product attributes, and user-defined attributes to the planning data.

98. (Previously presented) The method of claim 97, wherein the user-defined attribute is product size.

99. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the planning data includes start date, duration, and quantity for each planning component.

100. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the plurality of users are assigned roles to determine status as read-only or authorized for editing the planning data.

101. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the hierarchical order of the attributes is unique to each user.

102. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, further including providing a freeze profile module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the freeze profile module having access to the central database for assigning a freeze profile to the planning data preventing the planning data from being edited during a freeze period.

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103. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the step of providing a hierarchy module involves ranking and placing one of the attributes into a hierarchical order.

104. (Previously presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the plurality of users access the central database through a communication link to a computer network.

105. (Currently amended) A computer program product usable with a programmable computer processor having a computer readable program code embodied therein, comprising:

computer readable program code which creates a central database for storing and sharing planning data;

computer readable program code which implements an attribute module made selectively available to a plurality of users in the supply chain, the attribute module having access to the central database for assigning attributes to the planning data;

computer readable program code which creates derived planning data from an equation using selected planning data stored in the database;

computer readable program code which implements a hierarchy module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the hierarchy module having access to the central database for creating a hierarchy based on the attributes; and

computer readable program code which implements a manipulation module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the manipulation module having access to the central database for manipulating the supply chain

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planning data by aggregating the planning data in accordance with the hierarchy to produce aggregated planning data.

106. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 105, further including computer readable program code which implements a calendar module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the calendar module having access to the central database for organizing and incrementing the planning data according to a customized calendar.

107. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 105, wherein the planning data is selectively made available through a filter that queries for the planning data by seeking only data having the attribute.

108. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 105, wherein the attribute module assigns location attributes, product attributes, and user-defined attributes to the planning data.

109. (Currently amended) A computer system for sharing supply chain planning data, comprising:

means for creating a central database for storing and sharing planning data;

means for providing an attribute module made selectively available to a plurality of users in the supply chain, the attribute module having access to the central database for assigning attributes to the planning data;

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means for creating derived planning data from an equation using selected planning data stored in the database;

means for providing a hierarchy module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the hierarchy module having access to the central database for creating a hierarchy based on the attributes; and

means for providing a manipulation module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the manipulation module having access to the central database for manipulating the supply chain planning data by aggregating the planning data in accordance with the hierarchy to produce aggregated planning data.

110. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 109, further including means for providing a calendar module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the calendar module having access to the central database for organizing and incrementing the planning data according to a customized calendar.

111. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 109, wherein the planning data is selectively made available through a filter that queries for the planning data by seeking only data having the attribute.

112. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 109, wherein the attribute module assigns location attributes, product attributes, and user-defined attributes to the planning data.

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113. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 109, further including means for providing a freeze profile module made selectively available to the plurality of users in the supply chain, the freeze profile module having access to the central database for assigning a freeze profile to the planning data preventing the planning data from being edited during a freeze period.

114. (Previously presented) The computer system of claim 109, wherein the plurality of users access the central database through a communication link to a computer network.

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